

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (original) A separator plate for the production of printed circuit board components by pressing individual layers, which separator plate includes a metallic core layer and a coating on at least one side of the core layer, wherein the core layer comprises a comparatively well heat-conductive metal, and the core layer comprises an outer metal layer applied to the core layer by cold-plating and made of a metal having a comparatively high surface hardness.

Claim 2 (original) A separator plate according to claim 1, wherein the core layer comprises on either side an outer metal layer applied by cold-plating and having a comparatively high surface hardness.

Claim 3 (currently amended) A separator plate according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the outer metal layer is applied to the core layer by roll-bonding.

Claim 4 (original) A separator plate according to claim 1, wherein the outer metal layer is made of steel such as, e.g., fine steel or carbon steel.

Claim 5 (original) A separator plate according to claim 1, wherein the outer metal layer is made of nickel.

Claim 6 (original) A separator plate according to claim 1, wherein the core layer is made

of aluminum.

Claim 7 (original) A separator plate according to claim 1, wherein the core layer is made of copper.

Claim 8 (original) A separator plate according to claim 1, wherein the core layer has a thickness of about 0.35 mm.

Claim 9 (original) A separator plate according to claim 1, wherein the outer metal layer has a thickness of about 0.075 mm.

Claim 10 (original) A separator plate according to claim 1, wherein a lubricant is applied to the outer metal layer.

Claim 11 (original) A separator plate according to claim 10, wherein the lubricant is based on an olefin.

Please add the following new claim:

Claim 12. (New) A separator plate according to claim 2, wherein the outer metal layer is applied to the core layer by roll-bonding.